

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 9297

HB0642609297SD0

Offered by:

SEN. FONFARA, 1st Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **6426**

File No. 960

Cal. No. 653

"AN ACT IMPROVING BROADBAND ACCESS."

- Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. Section 16-331h of the general statutes is repealed and the 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) Not later than one hundred twenty days after the certified competitive video service provider begins offering service in a designated area pursuant to its certificate of video franchise authority, such provider shall provide capacity over its video service to allow community access programming, in its basic service package, in accordance with the following: (1) The certified competitive video service provider shall provide capacity equal to the number of community access channels currently offered by the incumbent community antenna television company in the given area; (2) the certified competitive video service provider shall provide funds for community access operations, as provided in subsection (k) of section

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16-331a; (3) the certified competitive video service provider shall provide the transmission of community access programming with connectivity up to the first two hundred feet from the competitive video service provider's activated wireline video programming distribution facility located in the provider's designated service area and shall not provide additional requirements for the creation of any content; and (4) the community access programming shall be submitted to the certified competitive video service provider in a manner or form that is compatible with the technology or protocol utilized by said competitive video service provider to deliver video services over its particular network, and is capable of being accepted and transmitted by the provider, without requirement for additional alteration or change in the content by the provider.

- (b) A certified competitive video service provider and a community antenna television company or nonprofit organization providing community access operations shall engage in good faith negotiation regarding interconnection of community access operations where such interconnection is technically feasible or necessary. Interconnection may be accomplished by direct cable, microwave link, satellite or other reasonable method of connection. At the request of a competitive video service provider, community antenna television company or provider of community access operations, the Department of Public Utility Control may facilitate the negotiation for such interconnection.
- [(c) Not later than one hundred twenty days after the certified competitive video service provider begins offering service in a designated area pursuant to its certificate of video franchise authority, such provider shall provide transmission of the Connecticut Television Network to all its subscribers, including real-time transmission as technically feasible, under the same conditions as set forth in subdivisions (3) and (4) of subsection (a) of this section.]
- Sec. 2. Section 16-331s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(a)] A company issued a certificate of cable franchise authority shall be subject to the community access programming and operations provisions set forth in subsections (b) to (i), inclusive, and subsections (k), (l) and (n) of section 16-331a, as amended by this act, and any regulations pursuant thereto, and subsection (c) of section 16-333 and any regulations pursuant thereto.

- [(b) A company issued a cable franchise authority certificate shall provide transmission of the Connecticut Television Network to all its subscribers, including real-time transmission as technically feasible.]
- Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any community antenna television company or nonprofit organization providing community access operations that supplied original programming from locally run operations and provided funding to town-specific programming on January 1, 2008, shall continue to fund town-specific programming through December 31, 2012, in such proportions to funding for original programming from locally run operations as of January 1, 2008.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 16-331cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (b) The moneys in said account shall be expended by the Department of Public Utility Control as follows: (1) Fifty per cent of said moneys shall be available to local [community antenna television and video advisory councils; state-wide community antenna television and video advisory councils; public, educational and governmental programmers and] public, educational and governmental studio operators [to subsidize] whom the Department of Public Utility Control requires to file annual community access provider reports, for subsidizing capital and equipment costs related to producing and procuring such programming, and (2) fifty per cent of said moneys shall be available to boards of education and other education entities for education technology initiatives.
- 79 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is

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amended by adding subdivision (51) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

81 (NEW) (51) "The Connecticut Television Network" means the 82 General Assembly's state-wide twenty-four-hour state public affairs 83 programming service, separate and distinct from community access 84 channels.

- Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 16-331a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 88 (c) If a community-based nonprofit organization in a franchise area 89 desires to assume responsibility for community access operations, it 90 shall [, upon timely petition to the department, be granted intervenor 91 status in a franchise proceeding held pursuant to this section apply to 92 the department to assume such responsibility, in a manner designed by the department. The department shall assign this responsibility to 93 94 the most qualified community-based nonprofit organization or the 95 company based on the following criteria: (1) The recommendations of 96 the advisory council and of the municipalities in the franchise area; (2) 97 a review of the organization's or the company's performance in 98 providing community access programming; (3) the operating plan 99 submitted by the organization and the company for providing 100 community access programming; (4) the experience in community 101 access programming of the organization; (5) the organization's and the 102 company's proposed budget, including expenses for salaries, 103 consultants, attorneys, and other professionals; (6) the quality and 104 quantity of the programming to be created, promoted or facilitated by 105 the organization or the company; (7) a review of the organization's 106 procedures to ensure compliance with federal and state law, including 107 the regulations of Connecticut state agencies; and (8) any other criteria 108 determined to be relevant by the department. If the department selects 109 an organization to provide community access operations, the company 110 shall provide financial and technical support to the organization in an 111 amount to be determined by the department. On petition of the Office 112 of Consumer Counsel or the franchise's advisory council or on its own

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motion, the department shall hold a hearing, with notice, on the ability of the organization to continue its responsibility for community access operations. In its decision following such a hearing, the department may reassign the responsibility for community access operations to another organization or the company in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2009) (a) Not later than sixty days prior to October 1, 2009, and not later than sixty days prior to October first every five years thereafter, any community-based nonprofit organization may petition the Department of Public Utility Control to assume responsibility for community access within a defined service area in which community access is being provided by an organization with an annual operating budget of at least one hundred thousand dollars. Upon receipt of any such petition, the department shall conduct a contested case proceeding to determine whether to assign such responsibility to the community-based nonprofit organization submitting the petition or to any other nonprofit organization or community access television company. The department shall base such determination on the following criteria: (1) The recommendations of the State-wide Community Antenna Television Advisory Council, the applicable local advisory council and of the chief elected officials of the municipalities in the service area, (2) a review of the performance of company providing the organization or community programming on the date the petition is filed, (3) the operation plan submitted by an organization or a company for providing community access programming, (4) the experience of the organization or company in community access programming, (5) the proposed budget of the organization or company, including expenses for salaries, consultants, attorneys and other professionals, (6) the quality and quantity of the programming to be created, promoted or facilitated by the organization or the company, (7) a review of the organization's or company's procedures to ensure compliance with federal and state law, including the regulations of state agencies, and (8) any other criteria determined to be relevant by the department.

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147 (b) Not later than sixty days prior to April 1, 2010, and not later than 148 sixty days prior to April first every five years thereafter, the 149 department may, on its own initiative, review and evaluate the 150 provision of community access programming by the organization or 151 company. The department shall conduct such review or evaluation if 152 the Consumer Counsel petitions the department for such a review 153 during the period commencing October 1, 2009, and ending April 1, 154 2010, and each corresponding period every five years thereafter. Such 155 review shall include consideration of the factors set forth in subsection (a) of this section. 156

- Sec. 8. Section 16-331d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) The chief elected official from the town in which a vacant seat exists on a community antenna television advisory council shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy if any other appointing authority fails to make an appointment within six months of the time in which a vacancy occurs.
 - (b) No member of a community antenna television advisory council [appointed by the chief elected official of a municipality, the board of education or the public libraries] shall be an employee of a community antenna television company. For the purposes of this subsection, an employee includes any person working full or part time or performing any subcontracting or consulting services for the company.
 - (c) Any member of a community antenna television advisory council, serving a franchise area of seven towns, one of which has a population of no less than twenty thousand and no more than twenty-six thousand with a town meeting form of government, may be an employee of a community access provider. For the purposes of this subsection, an employee includes any person working full or part time or performing any subcontracting or consulting services for the provider.
- 178 Sec. 9. Section 16-331t of the general statutes is repealed and the

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179 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

- (a) A company issued a certificate of cable franchise authority shall, twice a year, convene a meeting with the advisory council established pursuant to its previous certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to section 16-331. Members shall be appointed in accordance with section 16-331d, as amended by this act. No member of the advisory council [shall] may be an employee of a company providing community antenna television service or video service. For the purposes of this subsection, an employee includes any person working full or part time or performing any subcontracting or consulting services for a company providing community antenna television service or video service.
- 191 (b) A company issued a cable franchise authority certificate shall 192 provide funding to the advisory council in the amount of two 193 thousand dollars per year.
 - (c) Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation. For the purposes of this section, compensation shall include the receipt of any free or discounted community antenna television service or video service.
 - (d) The Department of Public Utility Control shall designate the advisory council as an intervenor in any contested case proceeding before the department involving the company it advises. Such company shall provide to the chairperson of the advisory council a copy of any report, notice or other document it files with the department in any applicable proceeding.
 - (e) Any company issued a certificate of cable franchise authority shall, every six months, provide on bills, bill inserts or letters to subscribers, a notice indicating the name and address of the chairperson of the advisory council and describing the responsibilities of such advisory council. The advisory council shall have an opportunity to review such notice prior to its distribution.

(f) Any member of the advisory council serving a franchise area of seven towns, one of which has a population of no less than twenty thousand residents and no more than twenty-six thousand residents with a town meeting form of government, may be an employee of a community access provider. For the purposes of this subsection, an employee includes any person working full or part time or performing any subcontracting or consulting services for the provider.

Sec. 10. Section 16-32 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

Each public service company, except telegraph companies and express companies subject to the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission or its successor agency and companies owned, directly or indirectly, by a parent company, the accounts and operations of which are required to be audited annually in accordance with federal law, shall have an annual comprehensive audit and report made of its accounts and operations by independent public accountants satisfactory to the Department of Public Utility Control. A copy of such annual audit report shall be filed with the department, together with the company's annual report. In the absence of such an audit report, or if the department, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, determines that such audit report is insufficient or unsatisfactory, the department shall cause such an audit to be made at the expense of the company either by independent public accountants satisfactory to the department or by any staff of the department engaged in the activities contemplated by subsection (b) of section 16-8. The department may waive the compliance with the provisions of this section by any public service company whose annual gross income is less than one hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) As used in this section, "broadband" means a high-speed Internet service whose minimum speed is the speed as defined by the Federal Communications Commission, and "priority areas" means those parts of the state the Department of Public Utility Control determines to be unserved in

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244 (b) The Department of Public Utility Control shall, in consultation 245 with the Governor's Broadband Working Group, the Office of 246 Consumer Counsel and the Broadband Internet Coordinating Council, 247 established pursuant to section 4d-100 of the general statutes, develop a state-wide technology initiative program with funds received by the 249 state from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for 250 the purpose of expanding broadband services. Nothing in this section shall give the Department of Public Utility Control or any other entity 252 any additional authority, regulatory or otherwise, over providers of 253 telecommunications and information technology. The initiative 254 program established pursuant to this act shall include, but not be 255 limited to, the following components:

- (1) Expanding and deploying broadband infrastructure in priority areas and increasing broadband adoption. The initiative program shall include a detailed financial incentives component to award incentives first to private providers and then to public-private partnerships that deploy additional broadband infrastructure to such priority areas. No such incentive shall be available to support any deployment in areas where broadband, via wireline or wireless technologies but not satellite technology, is already available.
- (2) In partnership with the private sector, establishing a digital technology access and education program to provide information, computers and other technology to access broadband and communications technology to local communities in priority areas. Such program may include, but not be limited to, education and skillbuilding opportunities, hardware and software, Internet connectivity and development of locally relevant content and delivery of vital services through technology.
- (3) Providing organizational and capacity building support to groups throughout the state, including, but not limited to, municipalities, the community-technical colleges, school districts,

libraries and senior centers, and identifying and facilitating the availability of other public and private funding sources to enhance the purposes of the state-wide technology initiative established pursuant to this subsection.

- (4) Establishing a competitive grant program to provide grants to private sector providers or public-private partnerships. Grants shall be used to provide training and skill-building opportunities; provide access to hardware and software; provide Internet connectivity; adopt information and communication technologies in priority areas and develop locally relevant content and delivery of vital services through technology. The department shall develop criteria for awarding grants pursuant to this subdivision, which may include, but not be limited to, eligibility requirements and funding sources.
- (c) The department, in consultation with telecommunications and Internet service providers, shall contract with a third-party organization to create and regularly update a detailed, geographic information system (GIS) map, at the census tract level, displaying levels of broadband service by connection speed and type of technology used and integrating the maps with demographic information to produce a comprehensive state-wide inventory and mapping of existing broadband service and capability. The resulting maps shall clearly convey the following information:
- 297 (1) Areas unserved by any broadband provider;
- 298 (2) Areas served by a single broadband provider;
- 299 (3) The location of towers used to transmit and receive broadband 300 signals;
- 301 (4) Average upstream and downstream transmission speeds at the census tract group level of detail;
- 303 (5) Areas served by multiple broadband providers; and
- 304 (6) The types of technology used to provide broadband service.

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(d) The data used to produce the maps shall be capable of being integrated with demographic data from other sources, including, but not limited to, population density and household income to allow for the production of maps that measure, down to the census tract level of detail, various characteristics of residents in areas receiving different levels of broadband services and using different technologies.

- (e) Any broadband provider supplying data to the department for the purposes of developing the state-wide technology initiative program and the geographic information system map pursuant to this section may request, before supplying such data, that the department treat such data as trade secrets or proprietary commercial or financial information pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 1-210 of the general statutes. If the department determines that such data does not constitute a trade secret or proprietary commercial or financial information pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 1-210 of the general statutes, nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require such provider to supply such data to the department.
- (f) On or before January 1, 2010, and annually thereafter for five years, the department shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the development of the state-wide technology initiative program and the geographic information system map prepared pursuant to this section to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy.
- Sec. 12. Section 16-331dd of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (c) as follows (*Effective from passage*):
- 333 (NEW) (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of 334 section 16-331i, the holder of a certificate of video franchise authority 335 issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall (1) convene a 336 meeting twice a year with the advisory council established pursuant to

its previous certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to section 16-331, and (2) provide funding to said advisory council in the amount of two thousand dollars per year.

- Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 16-50r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 343 (a) Every person engaged in electric transmission services, as 344 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, electric generation 345 services, as defined in said section, or electric distribution services, as 346 defined in said section generating electric power in the state utilizing a 347 generating facility with a capacity greater than one megawatt, shall, 348 [annually,] on or before March [first] 1, 2010, and biennially thereafter, 349 file a report on a forecast of loads and resources. [which may consist of 350 an update of the previous year's report with the council for its review.] 351 The report shall cover the ten-year forecast period beginning with the 352 year of the report. Upon request, the report shall be made available to 353 the public. The report shall include, as applicable: (1) A tabulation of 354 estimated peak loads, resources and margins for each year; (2) data on 355 energy use and peak loads for the five preceding calendar years; (3) a 356 list of existing generating facilities in service; (4) a list of scheduled 357 generating facilities for which property has been acquired, for which 358 certificates have been issued and for which certificate applications 359 have been filed; (5) a list of planned generating units at plant locations 360 for which property has been acquired, or at plant locations not yet 361 acquired, that will be needed to provide estimated additional electrical 362 requirements, and the location of such facilities; (6) a list of planned 363 transmission lines on which proposed route reviews are being 364 undertaken or for which certificate applications have already been 365 filed; (7) a description of the steps taken to upgrade existing facilities 366 and to eliminate overhead transmission and distribution lines in 367 accordance with the regulations and standards described in section 16-368 50t; and (8) for each private power producer having a facility 369 generating more than one megawatt and from whom the person 370 furnishing the report has purchased electricity during the preceding

calendar year, a statement including the name, location, size and type of generating facility, the fuel consumed by the facility and the byproduct of the consumption. Confidential, proprietary or trade secret information provided under this section may be submitted under a duly granted protective order. The council may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, that specify the expected filing requirements for persons that transmit electric power in the state, electric distribution companies, and persons that generate electric power in the state utilizing a generating facility with a capacity of greater than one megawatt. Until such regulations are adopted, persons that transmit electric power in the state shall file reports pursuant to this section that include the information requested in subdivisions (6) and (7) of this subsection; electric distribution companies in the state shall file reports pursuant to this section that include the information requested in subdivisions (1), (2), (7) and (8) of this subsection; persons that generate electric power in the state utilizing a generating facility with a capacity greater than one megawatt shall file reports pursuant to this section that include the information requested in subdivisions (3), (4), (5) and (8) of this subsection. The council shall hold a public hearing on such filed forecast reports annually. The council shall conduct a review in an executive session of any confidential, proprietary or trade secret information submitted under a protective order during such a hearing. At least one session of such hearing shall be held after six-thirty p.m. Upon reviewing such forecast reports, the council may issue its own report assessing the overall status of loads and resources in the state. If the council issues such a report, it shall be made available to the public and shall be furnished to each member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology, any other member of the General Assembly making a written request to the council for the report and such other state and municipal bodies as the council may designate.

Sec. 14. Section 16a-3a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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(a) The electric distribution companies, in consultation with the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board, established pursuant to section 16a-3, shall review the state's energy and capacity resource assessment and develop a comprehensive plan for the procurement of energy resources, including, but not limited to, conventional and renewable generating facilities, energy efficiency, load management, demand response, combined heat and power facilities, distributed generation and other emerging energy technologies to meet the projected requirements of their customers in a manner that minimizes the cost of such resources to customers over time and maximizes consumer benefits consistent with the state's environmental goals and standards.

- (b) On or before January 1, 2008, and [annually] biennially thereafter, the companies shall submit to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board an assessment of (1) the energy and capacity requirements of customers for the next three, five and ten years, (2) the manner of how best to eliminate growth in electric demand, (3) how best to level electric demand in the state by reducing peak demand and shifting demand to off-peak periods, (4) the impact of current and projected environmental standards, including, but not limited to, those related to greenhouse gas emissions and the federal Clean Air Act goals and how different resources could help achieve those standards and goals, (5) energy security and economic risks associated with potential energy resources, and (6) the estimated lifetime cost and availability of potential energy resources.
- (c) Resource needs shall first be met through all available energy efficiency and demand reduction resources that are cost-effective, reliable and feasible. The projected customer cost impact of any demand-side resources considered pursuant to this subsection shall be reviewed on an equitable bases with nondemand-side resources. The procurement plan shall specify (1) the total amount of energy and capacity resources needed to meet the requirements of all customers, (2) the extent to which demand-side measures, including efficiency, conservation, demand response and load management can cost-effectively meet these needs, (3) needs for generating capacity and

transmission and distribution improvements, (4) how the development of such resources will reduce and stabilize the costs of electricity to consumers, and (5) the manner in which each of the proposed resources should be procured, including the optimal contract periods for various resources.

- (d) The procurement plan shall consider: (1) Approaches to maximizing the impact of demand-side measures; (2) the extent to which generation needs can be met by renewable and combined heat and power facilities; (3) the optimization of the use of generation sites and generation portfolio existing within the state; (4) fuel types, diversity, availability, firmness of supply and security and environmental impacts thereof, including impacts on meeting the state's greenhouse gas emission goals; (5) reliability, peak load and energy forecasts, system contingencies and existing resource availabilities; (6) import limitations and the appropriate reliance on such imports; and (7) the impact of the procurement plan on the costs of electric customers.
- 456 (e) The board, in consultation with the regional independent system 457 operator, shall review and approve or review, modify and approve the 458 proposed procurement plan as submitted not later than one hundred 459 twenty days after receipt. For calendar years 2009 and thereafter, the 460 board shall conduct such review not later than sixty days after receipt. 461 For the purpose of reviewing the plan, the Commissioners of 462 Transportation and Agriculture and the chairperson of the Public 463 Utilities Control Authority, or their respective designees, shall not 464 participate as members of the board. The electric distribution 465 companies shall provide any additional information requested by the 466 board that is relevant to the consideration of the procurement plan. In 467 the course of conducting such review, the board shall conduct a public 468 hearing, may retain the services of a third-party entity with experience 469 in the area of energy procurement and may consult with the regional 470 independent system operator. The board shall submit the reviewed 471 procurement plan, together with a statement of any unresolved issues, 472 to the Department of Public Utility Control. The department shall

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consider the procurement plan in an uncontested proceeding and shall conduct a hearing and provide an opportunity for interested parties to submit comments regarding the procurement plan. Not later than one hundred twenty days after submission of the procurement plan, the department shall approve, or modify and approve, the procurement plan. [For calendar years 2009 and thereafter, the department shall approve, or modify and approve, said procurement plan not later than sixty days after submission.]

- (f) On or before September 30, 2009, and every two years thereafter, the Department of Public Utility Control shall report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and the environment regarding goals established and progress toward implementation of the procurement plan established pursuant to this section, as well as any recommendations for the process.
- (g) All electric distribution companies' costs associated with the development of the resource assessment and the development of the procurement plan shall be recoverable through the systems benefits charge.
- Sec. 15. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2009) The date and time of filing of each document with the Department of Public Utility Control shall be the date and time by which the department first receives a complete electronic or paper version of such document provided such electronic or paper version is filed in accordance with section 16-1-14 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. If payment of a fee is required to accompany such document, the department shall not deem a document to be filed until the department receives the fee. If a document is electronically submitted outside of the department's normal business hours, the department shall deem the document to be filed at the time the department's offices next open. The department shall require two copies of each paper version of electronic filings to be mailed to the department by first-class mail. Any party or intervenor in a department docket who does not have computer access may

request from the department a paper version of any filing from any other party or intervenor associated with such docket.

- Sec. 16. Subsection (b) of section 1 of public act 09-31 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):
- (b) If a person or entity, other than a customer of record or the customer's authorized representative, seeks to terminate electric, gas, telecommunications or water service to a residential dwelling, the company, supplier or utility shall not terminate service unless, nine or more days prior to the requested termination date, the company, utility or supplier sends a notification letter <u>by certified mail</u> to the customer of record at the customer's last-known address.
- Sec. 17. Section 16-262e of the general statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 09-31, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):
 - (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16-262d, wherever an owner, agent, lessor or manager of a residential dwelling is billed directly by an electric, electric distribution, gas, telephone or water company or by a municipal utility for utility service furnished to such building not occupied exclusively by such owner, agent, lessor, or manager, and such company or municipal utility or the electric supplier providing electric generation services has actual or constructive knowledge that the occupants of such dwelling are not the individuals to whom the company or municipal utility usually sends its bills, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall not terminate such service for nonpayment of a delinquent account owed to such company, electric supplier or municipal utility by such owner, agent, lessor or manager unless: (1) Such company, electric supplier or municipal utility makes a good faith effort to notify the occupants of such building of the proposed termination by the means most practicable under the circumstances and best designed to provide actual notice; and (2) such company, electric supplier or municipal utility provides an opportunity, where practicable, for such

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occupants to receive service in their own names without any liability for the amount due while service was billed directly to the lessor, owner, agent or manager and without the necessity for a security deposit; provided, if it is not practicable for such occupants to receive service in their own names, the company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall not terminate service to such residential dwelling but may pursue the remedy provided in section 16-262f.

- (b) Whenever a company, electric supplier or municipal utility has terminated service to a residential dwelling whose occupants are not the individuals to whom it usually sends its bills, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall, upon obtaining knowledge of such occupancy, immediately reinstate service and thereafter not effect termination unless it first complies with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) The owner, agent, lessor or manager of a residential dwelling shall be liable for the costs of all electricity, gas, water or heating fuel furnished by a public service company, electric supplier, municipal utility or heating fuel dealer to the building, except for any service furnished to any dwelling unit of the building on an individually metered or billed basis for the exclusive use of the occupants of that dwelling unit, provided an owner, agent, lessor or manager shall be liable for service provided on an individually metered or billed basis pursuant to subsection (g) of this section from ten days after the date of written request sent by certified mail by the company, supplier, utility or dealer if the company, supplier, utility or dealer is denied access to its individual meters or other facilities located on the premises of the building. Such owner, agent, lessor or manager shall only be liable when such owner, agent, lessor or manager controls access to such individual meters to which access is denied. If service is not provided on an individually metered or billed basis and the owner, agent, lessor or manager fails to pay for such service, any occupant who receives service in his own name may deduct, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, a reasonable estimate of the cost of any portion of such service which is for the use of occupants of

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- 572 dwelling units other than such occupant's dwelling unit.
- (d) Any payments made by the occupants of any residential dwelling pursuant to subsection (a) or (c) of this section shall be deemed to be in lieu of an equal amount of rent or payment for use and occupancy and each occupant shall be permitted to deduct such amounts from any sum of rent or payment for use and occupancy due and owing or to become due and owing to the owner, agent, lessor or manager.
- (e) Wherever a company, electric supplier or municipal utility provides service pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, the company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall notify each occupant of such building in writing that service will be provided in the occupant's own name. Such writing shall contain a conspicuous notice in boldface type stating,
- 586 "NOTICE TO OCCUPANT. YOU MAY DEDUCT THE FULL 587 AMOUNT YOU PAY (name of company or municipal utility) FOR 588 (type of service) FROM THE MONEY YOU PAY YOUR LANDLORD 589 OR HIS AGENT."
 - (f) The owner, agent, lessor or manager shall not increase the amount paid by such occupant for rent or for use and occupancy in order to collect all or part of that amount lawfully deducted by the occupant pursuant to this section.
 - (g) The owner, agent, lessor or manager of a residential dwelling shall be responsible for providing a public service company, electric supplier or municipal utility or heating fuel dealer access to its meter or other facilities located on the premises of the residential dwelling promptly upon written request sent by certified mail of the public service company, electric supplier or municipal utility or heating fuel dealer during reasonable hours. If such owner, agent, lessor or manager fails to provide such access upon such reasonable written request, the owner, agent, lessor or manager shall be liable for the costs incurred by the public service company, electric supplier or municipal

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utility or heating fuel dealer in gaining access to the meter and facilities, including costs of collection and attorneys' fees. If the failure to provide access delays the ability of the public service company, electric supplier or municipal utility or heating fuel dealer to terminate service to an individually metered or billed portion of the dwelling, the owner, agent, lessor or manager failing to provide access shall also be liable for the amounts billed by the public service company, electric supplier or municipal utility or heating fuel dealer for service provided to the individually metered or billed portion of the dwelling for the period beginning ten days after access has been requested <u>pursuant to this subsection</u> and ending when access is provided by such owner, agent, lessor or manager.

(h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the company, electric supplier, municipal utility, heating fuel dealer or occupant from pursuing any other action or remedy at law or equity that it may have against the owner, agent, lessor, or manager.

Sec. 18. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Public Utility Control shall initiate a docket to determine how best to ensure the availability of transmission of the Connecticut Television Network, or its successor, to in-state subscribers of video programming by satellite. Such docket shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of tax policies as a tool to ensure such availability. On or before January 15, 2010, the department shall report its recommendations from such docket initiated pursuant to this section to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy."

This act sha	all take effect as follow	vs and shall amend the following
Section 1	from passage	16-331h
Sec. 2	from passage	16-331s
Sec. 3	from passage	New section
Sec. 4	from passage	16-331cc(b)
Sec. 5	from passage	16-1(a)

Sec. 6	from passage	16-331a(c)
Sec. 7	July 1, 2009	New section
Sec. 8	from passage	16-331d
Sec. 9	from passage	16-331t
Sec. 10	October 1, 2009	16-32
Sec. 11	July 1, 2009	New section
Sec. 12	from passage	16-331dd
Sec. 13	from passage	16-50r(a)
Sec. 14	from passage	16a-3a
Sec. 15	July 1, 2009	New section
Sec. 16	July 1, 2009	PA 09-31, Sec. 1(b)
Sec. 17	July 1, 2009	16-262e
Sec. 18	from passage	New section